



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending May 11, 2008

## SCATTERED SHOWERS SLOW FIELDWORK

Scattered showers across the State last week kept planters idle or moving slowly as farmers searched for dry fields. Tobacco transplanting was delayed due to wet fields, although progress is only slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. The wheat crop was rated in good-to-excellent condition. Less than one-fifth of the State’s acreage was reported having problems with insect or disease damage, such as powdery mildew and cereal leaf beetles. Cattle producers have been treating fly problems. Farmers continued harvesting hay at a rate slightly behind last year. Last week’s major agricultural activity, other than planting, was applying pesticides and fertilizers.

There were 4 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent very short, 13 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus. Temperatures ranged near to slightly above normal across Tennessee last week. Rainfall averaged above normal across western and eastern portions of the state, while the Plateau and middle areas averaged below.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Planted	85	75	96	93	Apples	0	1	22	65	12
Corn – Emerged	52	18	88	83	Hay	1	6	38	49	6
Cotton –Planted	15	7	50	35	Pastures	1	8	30	50	11
Hay – First Cutting	16	6	25	17	Peaches	0	3	17	60	20
Soybeans – Planted	9	3	23	15	Strawberries	2	6	21	58	13
Tobacco – Transplanted	10	3	14	11	Winter Wheat	1	4	17	57	21
Winter Wheat – Headed	89	50	94	89						

### County Agent Comments

*“Continuous rainfall has delayed field planting and hay cutting. Farmers now have to make decisions on what to plant. Wheat fields have shown great growth in the last week with farmers still applying fungicides where possible.”*  
**James Griffin, Lauderdale County**

*“Powdery mildew was found in wheat this week. One inch of rain came Thursday, stopping corn planting and hay harvest this week. Cattle producers are spraying for flies or applying fly tags to control horn flies. Wet fields may become a problem in completing corn planting by middle of month.”*  
**Steve Glass, Decatur County**

*“Rain slows hay cutting by another week. All signs point to the first cutting of hay to be short as we continue to see signs of last years drought. Some goods days last week allowed for the remainder of the corn to be planted in Dickson and tobacco producers look to be setting in the next 5 to 7 days.”*  
**Brad Greenfield, Dickson County**

*“Wheat crop still progressing well. Cereal leaf beetles reported this week in some fields. Some hay harvested this week. Most alfalfa should be ready to harvest when weather cooperates.”*  
**Paul Hart, Robertson County**

*“Hay harvesting got underway this week with yields falling below expectations for this spring. We are getting dry and could use some rainfall.”*  
**Jonathan Rhea, Jefferson County**

*“Producers took advantage of good work weather to complete early corn planting, make good progress toward completion of early hay-crop silage harvest, to begin soybean planting, and to make good progress on first cutting of hay. Hay yields are very average at best and carryover hay supplies are very limited. Pastures are making only moderate growth and could use a good general soaking rain. Pastures are adequate to support cattle at this point. Ponds for livestock water are below normal level across most of the area. Winter wheat for grain is developing nicely with only minimum problems observed to date.”*  
**Bob Sliger, Monroe County**

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: May 11, 2008 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 11, 2008				Current Week 5/11/08	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	83	43	66	-2	3.65	4	28.75	7.17	13.07	5.44
Tri-City_RGNL_A	82	39	64	3	0.28	1	14.11	-1.02	3.19	-1.46
Brownsville_TN	81	43	65	-2	2.83	3	27.76	6.31	11.51	4.02
Chattanooga/Lov	84	48	69	5	0.76	3	18.49	-3.29	4.35	-1.53
Clarksville_Sew	82	45	66	2	0.5	5	22.84	3.05	9.71	3.74
Cookeville	83	40	63	1	1.32	3	19.12	-2.69	6.2	-0.41
Covington	78	45	64	-3	1.27	2	25.62	4.19	9.96	2.39
Crossville_AP	79	45	64	4	0.79	3	20.81	-1.06	7.64	0.97
Dayton	82	44	65	1	1.07	3	16.6	-6.02	4.3	-2.12
Dickson_AG	82	44	64	-1	1.37	3	26.68	5.6	11.76	4.86
Dover_1W	79	44	64	1	0.42	3	27.9	7.21	10.54	3.92
Dyersburg	81	48	67	-2	0.47	3	21.04	1.61	7.5	1.05
Erwin_1W	82	42	64	5	0.53	3	12.99	-4.28	3.2	-2.42
Huntingdon_Wate	80	44	66	1	0.97	3	27.27	6.81	10.67	4.13
Jackson_Exp_Stn	82	48	66	1	1.77	3	30.68	10.13	11.96	4.84
Kingston_AG	83	47	67	6	0.91	2	18.27	-4.41	5.41	-1.02
Knoxville_AP	84	47	68	5	1.73	3	17.78	-0.81	5.56	0.43
Lewisburg	82	40	63	0	3.18	3	20.81	-0.66	9.01	2.28
Lexington_TN	81	44	64	-2	1.54	3	28.96	9.12	11.6	5.11
Linden	81	44	65	2	1.96	4	28.63	6.61	11.54	4.68
Martin	80	45	66	1	0.32	2	26.53	6.33	8.69	1.9
Mc_Minnville_Tn	83	47	67	3	1.19	5	15.93	-4.91	5.84	-0.41
Memphis_AG	85	47	68	-2	1.92	4	32.42	11.39	15.12	7.76
Milan	82	43	66	1	0.98	3	30.67	9.98	13.52	6.62
Murfreesboro_5N	83	41	65	1	1.5	4	19.09	-1.27	6.94	0.52
Nashville_Metro	82	47	66	1	0.87	5	22.63	4.09	9.81	3.66
Newcomb	81	38	62	3	0.72	3	15.17	-5.18	4.64	-1.69
Oneida	81	42	63	4	0.72	4	9.74	-10.61	4.01	-2.32
Portland_TN	81	46	64	1	0.66	3	25.79	6.15	11.48	5.3
Pulaski_Water_P	83	43	65	-3	1.52	3	21.13	-0.7	7.06	0.8
Savannah_6SW	82	44	67	-1	2.78	3	27.19	3.98	10.14	2.57
Sparta_TN	83	39	66	4	1.2	4	17.94	-3.31	5.92	-0.61
Springfield	80	43	63	0	0.88	4	24.75	5.68	11.29	5.25
Springhill	83	42	67	4	1.82	4	20.47	-1.44	8.84	1.72
Union_City	78	45	64	-2	0.29	3	25.89	5.98	9.69	3.13
Waynesboro_TN	82	44	66	3	1.83	4	23.54	0.16	9.34	1.92

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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